



1764
JF

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/837,503 Confirmation No. 8044
Applicant : Vincent M. Callaghan et al.
Filed : April 18, 2001
TC/A.U. : 1764
Examiner : Jennifer A. Leung

Docket No. : 01-104
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith is prior art for the consideration of the Examiner. This submission includes prior art from a corresponding foreign patent office search which is more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Thus, this statement is accompanied by the fee of \$180.00 as required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).

The enclosed listing shows three Japanese publication documents and six other documents. The three Japanese publications were cited in a Japanese office action, and a translation of the Japanese office action is enclosed to explain relevance of these documents. The remaining art was cited in a German office action, and a translation of the German office action is enclosed to show relevance of these references.

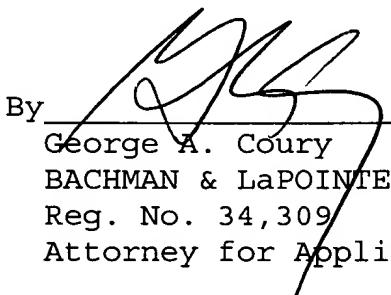
In addition, the enclosed citation contains several United States patents which are corresponding English language documents related to some of the enclosed foreign language prior art. These United States patents have not been thoroughly inspected to confirm exact correspondence to the foreign documents, but are nevertheless made of record to assist the Examiner in consideration of same.

10/11/2006 WASFAW1 000000116 09837503
01 FC:1806
180.00 0P

It is believed that no additional fee is required in connection with this submission. If any such fee is due, please charge same to deposit account 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent M. Callaghan et al.

By 
George A. Coury
BACHMAN & LaPOINTE, P.C.
Reg. No. 34,309
Attorney for Applicants

Telephone: (203) 777-6628 ext. 113
Telefax: (203) 865-0297
E-mail: docket@bachlap.com

Date: October 5, 2006

I, Rhonda B. Longo, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on October 5, 2006.



I, Rhonda B. Longo, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22343" on October 5, 2006. R. Longo PA

PTO/SB/08A (07-06)

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Complete if Known

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Application Number	09/837,503
Filing Date	April 18, 2001
First Named Inventor	Vincent M. Callaghan et al.
Art Unit	1764
Examiner Name	Jennifer A. Leung
Attorney Docket Number	01-104

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP 2000-086203 A	03-28-2000	Ukai Kunihiro et al.	
		JP 62-283567 A	12-09-1987	Takeu Toshihiko	
		JP 05-326008 A	12-10-1993	Doi Kunihiro et al.	
		DE 197 41 331 A1	04-01-1999	Reinhard Menzer et al.	
		DE 199 30 051 A1	01-18-2001	Norbert Wiesheu et al.	
		EP 0 924 161 A2	06-23-1999	Rainer Autenrieth et al.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.²Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).³See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.⁴Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).⁵For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.⁶Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.⁷Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

I, Rhonda B. Longo, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on October 5, 2006. Rhonda

PTO/SB/08A (07-06)
Approved for use through 09/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031
Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/837,503
Filing Date	April 18, 2001
First Named Inventor	Vincent M. Callaghan et al.
Art Unit	1764
Examiner Name	Jennifer A. Leung
Attorney Docket Number	01-104

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.*	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 01/24922 A1	04-12-2001	DOCTER Andreas et al.		
		DE 33 45 958 A1	06-28-1984	Paul John Chludzinski et al.		
		DE 41 93 026 T1	10-07-1993	Ian Palmer et al.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ²Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁴Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁷Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.